

Silhouette

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Ambridge Area High School

October 1996

Students make a difference in the community

by Carole Bunting

On Make A Difference Day, Saturday, October 26, 1996, people around the nation will take time out of their busy schedules to help other people. Everyone involved participates in different community service projects and does their best to make a difference. Various student organizations and classes in Ambridge Area High School participate in Make A Difference Day. The following represent only some of the people in the Ambridge Area School District participating in Make A Difference Day.

Interact, which is an organization that solely participates in community service projects and raises money for charity, is coordinating the numerous organizations, classes and individuals throughout the

Ambridge Area School District who are helping with Make A Difference Day. Mrs. Miloszewski, sponsor of Interact, said, "Our [Interact's] goal is to have 500 kids and adults participate in Make A Difference Day." For their Make A Difference Day project, Interact will adopt two bathrooms on the second floor of the high school. Members will recondition the bathrooms by cleaning and painting them. Interact members are volunteering their time to do chores for people who are unable to do certain jobs by themselves. Mrs. Miloszewski said, "What I'd like to do is add up all those hours [of community service] and multiply them by the minimum wage and see how much we [everyone who participated in Make A Difference Day] actually gave to the community."

ADAPT (Ambridge Drug

and Alcohol Prevention Team) is distributing red carnations with red ribbons at Northern Lights Shopping Center on Make A Difference Day. The red flowers and red ribbons represent the message that people should not drink and drive.

The Family and Consumer Science classes, taught by Ms. Molchen and Mrs. Higginbotham, are preparing gender-appropriate care packages for the children who find it necessary to use the women's shelter with their mothers.

Mrs. Virgi is participating with her art class in Make A Difference Day. They are decorating the gazebo in the P.J. Caul Park, which is located on the corner of Eleventh Street and Merchant Street in Ambridge. The craft classes carved jack-o-lanterns from donated pumpkins to help decorate the gazebo.

The high school basketball team, along with their coach, Mr. Meddock, will don costumes and distribute candy to children in the gazebo in P.J. Caul Park.

The African-American club will travel to the Beaver Valley Geriatric Center to visit the patients and to involve them in various activities. Club members are visiting senior citizens who they adopted in October 1995 in order to help them write letters or assist them in any way they can. Members are also distributing cards to many of the patients, reading literature written by African-Americans to the interested residents.

Students in DECA (Distributive Education Club of America) and NHS (National Honor Society) are adopting the men and women's restrooms in the basement and lobby, respectively. Club members will volunteer to help clean, paint and repair those bathrooms. High school english teacher, Ms. Piontek commented, "Hopefully, kids will take ownership of it [the bathroom] and won't let it be destroyed."

"TSA makes a difference every day," were the words Mr. Klaich, technology education teacher, used to express his

continued on page 6

In this issue...

* Our Make a Difference Day extravaganza!!!
see pages 6&7

* A report on the new building plan
see page 4

* Ambridge football defended
see page 10



Left to right: Lloyd Burnett, Jennifer Orsag, Michael Hoover, Jennifer Bucuren, Ben Russin, Cheryl Andoga, Todd Gnarra, Kenisha Carlisle, Melissa Smoley, Shawn Valenta, Amber Richards, Ryan Priore, Maggie Lagatta, Tim Vitunic. Center: Mandi Battisti and John Pitaro

Convictions - not image

by Emily DelGreco

In an age where lies are acceptable and depth of character is immeasurably small, it is no wonder that the electorate has become skeptical. The question may become not who to vote for, but rather, who to vote against. In times of political confusion it is important to remember that it is not necessarily the candidate, but the ideas that he/she represents, that are significant.

As Bob Dole reaffirmed in his Senate resignation speech, he is "just a man." He is a man, however, who has become the icon of the Republican Party. He is, in essence, the party standards personified. As for presidents that will always hold a place in the American heart, it wasn't their lifestyle or looks that put them there. They were simply men as well. It is a combination of their ideals and accomplishments matched with their personal motivation that makes them unforgettable.

In 1996, the optimal candidate may be the candidate who best represents the ideals held by mainstream America. This is expressly the reason why convictions and ideas should play such an important role in elections. I stress that these are ideas and not specific plans of action. They are simply notions that may or may not be accepted in the future. But while they are only ideas, they are certainly the outline to follow in choosing the candidate to vote for.

Ask yourself this question, "Why should so much of your paycheck be collected by the federal government?" How is it that the money a person worked so hard to earn can be spent to support many others? When has the idea of 'sharing our wealth' gone too far? What has become of providing for yourself? Why is the government suddenly so eager to assist? Is its ultimate goal to assist or control?

As for family life, we have been told that "takes a village to raise a child." Yet how is it that everyday children are being brought up, not under the

jurisdiction of a community, but in the hands of their parents? How is it that families, the historically natural environment in which to raise a child, are now inefficient? Why are we being told the "community" can replace the job of the parents? Why is the state at all involved in the upbringing of a child?

Education is one of the building blocks of an enlightened electorate. It is now becoming more and more the job of the government and not of the educators themselves. It was the nation's governors, not the nation's teachers that developed Goals 2000. Since when do governors qualify as educators? Why is the government developing educational goals for schools? Whatever happened to the old-fashioned personal goals, the kind that require sacrifice and hard work to achieve? These are the goals that create individual character. These are the achievements that strengthen morals and ethics.

While the government is overly anxious to assume responsibility of our lives, whom do you look to when something goes wrong? Whose fault is it that drug use among adolescents has doubled in the last four years? Certainly the government is not responsible. Yet it is exactly this type of problem that the government will try and remedy.

Individual freedoms are the basis of a democracy. The larger the governing body,

however, the smaller these freedoms become. As quoted in the Pittsburgh City Paper, Paul Scherrer, congressional candidate of the Socialist Equality Party in the East End's 14th District, described his party by saying, "We believe that everybody deserves a job, decent housing, complete education." These are freedoms, yes, but are they entitlements? Living in a democracy entitles you to nothing, but rather enables you to achieve. Democracy is not the

freedom to be given things, but the freedom to attain them.

These are the issues that distinguish the platforms of Democrats and Republicans. It is concerns such as these that should determine whom you vote for, not age or image. As Thomas Jefferson said, "In matters of taste, swim with the current," but "in matters of principle, stand like a rock."



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The SILHOUETTE is the student newspaper of Ambridge Area High School. It is a laboratory for students pursuing the field of journalism and is designed to serve the total school community.

The SILHOUETTE will be a public forum for the exchange of comment and criticism, open to students, faculty, administration, parents, and others in the school community. The SILHOUETTE is the official school newspaper published once a month at the cost of 25 cents per issue. It is printed by the Record Printing Company of Ambridge.

The editorial opinion is that of the Editorial Board. Any letters to the editor may be submitted to any member of the staff or to the newspaper in Room B-8. Letters received are subject to review by the Board before publication.

These are a few of my least favorite things

by Mike Cody

You know, for the past four years I've made a constant effort to write nice, pleasant articles, the sort of stories that make people's moms happy. But it's 11:30 at night, I have a ton of homework, and this article is due tomorrow. Sorry folks, but this isn't going to be a sweet-as-molasses editorial. I'm in a bad mood tonight, so I figured I'd make up for my sappy articles of the past by giving you, the reader, a brief list of things I hate about the world. I'll start off with stuff I hate about school.

I hate going to the library with my english class every year to learn how to use "Super TOMS."

I hate holiday lunch menus. Sure can't wait to dig into a plate of Vampire Wieners and Haunted Peaches.

I hate whoever it is that wrote "I Love Playboy" all over my

desk in Mrs. Shriver's class.

I hate TSA, band, and every other activity that gets to travel frequently.

I hate buying Top Ten CD's. When I bought Oasis' latest CD at Sun for \$9.99, I just felt so cheap and dirty. I knew that just about everybody in America was listening to the same CD as me and believe me, that took all the fun out of it.

I hate Billy Corgan and his big ugly Charlie Brown head. But his music is just swell.

I hate ice breakers. Quiet people usually just want to be left alone to be quiet. I don't exactly feel like talking after I've had to dance "The Macarena" in front of 20 or so complete strangers.

No, I don't hate "The Macarena." But the "Electric Slide" is starting to wear on me.

I hate yellow composition paper, the bane of any writer's existence.

I hate applying for colleges. First, I have to write down everything about myself short of my favorite color onto a dinky little form, then I have to pay a college to read it.

I hate people who laugh at kids with pink, purple and green hair. If anything, I wish there were more people who looked like that.

I hate meeting people my age who don't work, but only because their parents would rather just give them money. There is a special place in hell reserved for all of them.

I hate having just a little less time than I need each day.

I hate when I put off writing my articles until 11:47 p.m. on the night before they are due.

I hate the morning announcements, except for when they're read by that guy with the great voice, sharp wit and lovely personality.

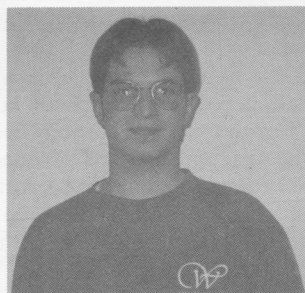
I hate getting to school before 7 a.m. every weekday, just because the anonymous person who drives me to school feels like getting there before any other sign of organic life has arrived.

I hate not having enough time to talk with people. I don't mean the usual boring chit-chat. I mean *really* talking to people, finding out their dreams, feelings etc. There is nothing better in life than having a deep conversation with someone.

I hate knowing that for every friend of mine who I stay in contact with after high school, there will be five people who I'll never see again.

But you know what I hate most of all? Of all the things and people I've complained about this issue, the only one that people will be offended by was the Billy Corgan/Charlie Brown comment. Go figure.

Oh, and have a nice day.



"Dole has enough experience and character to be President."

-Andy Zajac, junior



"I think everyone should take careful thought in voting because the president elected will be bringing in the new century."

-Lauren Colonna, freshman



"I would definitely support Clinton because he is pro-day care and I think that it's a very important issue."

-Kate Snyder, junior

Building bridges to the twenty-first century

by Katie Madonna

In the upcoming election, it is clear to me that the incumbent Bill Clinton is the obvious choice for president.

While Clinton feels that condoms should be distributed in schools, Dole views this as a contributing factor to America's moral crisis. I believe that part of the moral crisis may be the pregnant high school teens I encounter every day. Maybe these teen moms-to-be wouldn't be in such a predicament if condoms were readily available in school.

Republican candidate Bob Dole, although experienced, well, very experienced, in the ways of politics is clearly not the right man to hold the office of president. Bob Dole, during the debates,

acted childish and misinformed. This man is not enough of a people-person to run a nation. He actually stated, after promising not to bring up personal issues, that Clinton was taller, more overweight and had higher blood pressure than he did during the presidential debate. I am pretty sure this statement has been made before, but I think that this is a sign of senility.

Dole then went on to accuse Clinton of deploying more troops overseas than any president in US history. This statement was totally false. Clinton's high-profile deployment of troops to Bosnia, Somalia and Haiti paled in comparison to the numbers associated with WWII, the Vietnam Conflict and the Gulf War.

To anyone witnessing the debates, it was apparent that Dole was clearly of a negative attitude. When posed with a question, he always referred to one of Clinton's alleged faults rather than to one of his own strengths. Maybe that is just because he doesn't have too many strong points to talk about.

Clinton is recognized as the workman's friend. It does not take a genius to realize that most of America and this community are members of the general work force. Not many of us can benefit from tax cuts for the rich. Those days, along with the days of the last real Republicans went out with the Reagan era. Clinton backs unionized workers and small business owners.

President Clinton is a man who never forgets his humble

beginnings. He is working for people like those in his hometown, like people in Ambridge-the kind of Americans that walk the streets of this town everyday.

Dole has become unattached to real society. Working six months of the year for an exorbitant salary for as long as he has made him forget what it is like for people like those of our area. Dole had been involved in politics for a long time. It is time for him to step aside and let fresh, new ideas filter into Washington through the Democratic party.

Clinton has such incredible potential for causing more positive changes to take place in America, if he is given time to act on his plans. The Democratic party is going to build the bridge to the twenty first century.

Ambridge: "Building" for the future

by Jaime Cole

Beginning this fall the Ambridge Area School District will embark on a new building program. A new elementary school will be constructed and additions will be made to the existing junior high school.

The school board has decided that many of the schools' facilities are in need of renovations. After learning that the same costs of refurbishing the old buildings would be around the same amount as constructing a new building, the school will be constructed on the same property as the junior high, located in Economy. It will house students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

After the new building is built, Ridge Road, Economy and State Street Elementary schools will be closed. Ridge Road and Economy may be sold, and State Street will hold the administration offices currently at Park Road in Ambridge. The Park Road offices will then be sold.

The junior high, which now consists of seventh and eighth grades, will become an intermediate school made up of sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

The school has hired two small architectural firms to complete the intended job. They are Smoley and Sampy Architects and Poli and Cuten Architects. An educational consultant has also been hired. The consultant will inspect all the buildings and then translate the education criteria back to the architects to meet the facility's needs.

money will be generated mostly through bonds. A small portion will also come from a slight tax increase.

Many people throughout the community have mixed emotions about the subject. Mr. Dennis Smoley of Smoley and Sampy Architects feels that the project will "create some equality in the education systems." The

something about the high school."

The high school will eventually be renovated. But, Smoley says the decision was to "tackle the elementary schools first because they are the ones who are most affected."

Some people have negative views on the subject. Sofi Kovacevic, senior, declared "I think it's a waste. They should maintain the older buildings."

Many mixed opinions are coming from the elementary schools as well. Mrs. Millie Persi, kindergarten teacher at State Street Elementary, is strongly against the closure of the small, close-knit school. "I don't think it's a good idea at all. Children do better in smaller schools."

"It hurts," she continues. "The most important thing you should keep in mind are the children." The majority of the teachers at State Street are "very disappointed" to see their school being turned into an office building.

Many factors were considered by the school board through a very long process before the final approval was announced. Whether the emotions be positive or negative, Smoley sums up the entire project with, "It's exciting."

"The most important thing you should keep in mind are the children."

Mrs. Millie Persi
kindergarten teacher
State Street school

The firms project that the planning and design for the project will take almost one year. The actual construction is expected to last 15-18 months. The new buildings should be ready for occupancy by the second semester of the 1998/99 school year.

The school board has allotted \$10 million from their budget for the entire project. The

children at Anthony Wayne or Highland will no longer have an advantage over the kids from State Street. Everyone will have the same educational and technological opportunities.

Vice Principal Mr. Jerry Roman agrees that it is "money well spent" and that the project "should be cost effective." But he also states, "I wish they would do

Don't mock these elections

by Katie Madonna

Wang Chung, Vincent Verducci, Rick Blade—who are these people?

Well, they are some of the fictional candidates involved in the P.O.D. Mock Election. Each of Mr. Knopsnyder's four classes and Mr. Perry's class are undergoing the full election process.

This election is different from any other because the candidates are running for positions within the Ambridge School District. The positions are: superintendent, principal, vice-principal, home and school visitor and school board member.

The students must create a political party (The Perry Party,

The Kangaroos, The Kamakazies, The Pink Bobs and The Mad Russians make campaign flyers, posters (as if you haven't noticed) and videos. Some students had the opportunity to be on WMBA's *Speak Your Mind on Teen Line*.

Mr. Knopsnyder feels "the Mock Elections allow students to participate rather than just listen." Senior Tim Jeleniowski feels positively about the project also. He stated, "The mock elections show us about the election process and what we can do to affect it."

The project concluded October 9 when the candidates debated in the cafeteria. The economics classes voted for their favorite candidates October 11.

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AFTER MAYOR McCHEESE WAS ELECTED OUT OF OFFICE RONALD GREW CORRUPT AND SOLD THE FRY GUYS TO NEEDY CHEERLEADERS.

by Bonnie Marr

On Friday 11, four Ambridge High School football players and four cheerleaders talked to the children on a number of subjects.

One cheerleader, senior Alicia Walters, talked to the children about school spirit. She states, "It was a good experience to see the children get excited about getting spirit and I hope that from our visit that they will

Joe Kuhl

keep in mind all the things we had to say." School spirit has declined in our community quite rapidly. With the work of these students, hopefully, more people will realize how much the schools and community need spirit.

Coach Terry George also talked to the children. He spoke of pride. He stressed that anyone living in the Ambridge school district is a Bridger. He feels we should be proud to be a Bridger no matter what. Eli Holsinger, a senior football player, spoke to the elementary schools about how everything starts with them, because they are the foundation of Ambridge's community. "It was a great experience to go around and talk to the kids in the elementary schools," he states. "I think we should do this every Friday, because it gives the kids positive role models in the community."

After the coach, players

and cheerleaders spoke, the cheerleaders did a dance and a cheer so that the students would get "fired up". At the end of the assembly, Ambridge's athletic director, Mr. John Grogan, "tested" the students to see if they were listening. He gave away free tickets to the game and Bridger decals.

Another cheerleader, senior Kristi Jancsar, also spoke to the children about school spirit. She said, "I think that one way or another we promoted some school spirit." Of course one cannot accomplish total school spirit in one hour. Hopefully when these students reach the high school, school spirit, pride, responsibility and respect will have changed for the better.

New sponsors have a "Cheery" outlook

by Jenni Richards

Ambridge Area High School's Varsity and Junior Varsity Cheerleading squads both have new sponsors for the 1996-97 school year. Sponsor for the Varsity squad is Mrs. Cole and the sponsor for the Junior Varsity squad is Miss Kathleen Sickles.

Being a cheerleading sponsor involves a lot of work. Sponsors must attend all games and practices, keep track of the cheerleaders' attendance, organize

uniforms, make sure the parents are informed and, in Mrs. Cole's words, "make sure the squad is kept in line."

Mrs. Cole says that she volunteered as a sponsor because she felt that the girls needed somebody and she decided to help. So far her favorite part of sponsoring cheerleading has been the girls' enthusiasm for what they do. "Some of them really enjoy what they're doing," she said.

Junior High Emotional Support class teacher and former

Bridger Belle, Miss Sickles is the sponsor for the Junior Varsity Squad. She decided to get involved with cheerleading because she thought it would be fun to work with girls from the high school. She enjoys sponsoring and when asked if she would continue in years to come she responded, "I'd like to."

So has the program improved? "It's going a lot better than before," says Junior Varsity Captain Nicole O'Hagan. "We've only had her [Miss Sickles] for a

week but it's running smoothly." "Plans are being made to make cheerleading more of a sport," said Mrs. Cole.

Miss Sickles seems hopeful on the outlook of cheerleading for this year, says Mrs. Cole, "We are both looking forward to the rest of the school year. Together with the girls, we'd like to help bring about an increase in school spirit."

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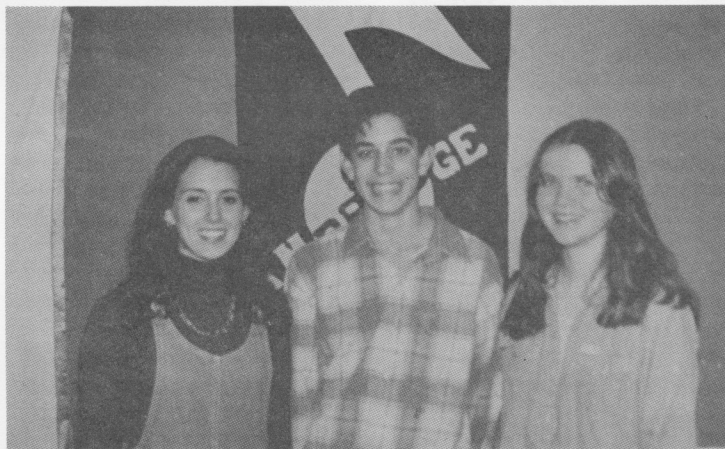


Choral students perform in festival

Three students from Ambridge High were chosen by audition to perform in Westminster Honors Choral Festival to be held on November 7, 8 & 9. They are senior alto Charissa Clark, senior tenor David Syka and junior soprano Patricia Sutton who placed first in her section.

Charissa was involved in vocal and theater groups in Kansas before moving here two years ago. She is now active in the High School Show Choir where she is Secretary, the Sewickley Choir Institute's Teen Chorale and the High School Musical. She also plays guitar, piano and recorder.

This is David Syka's second year in Honors Chorus. He has also attended two District Chorus Festivals and performed in the school musical. David, a four year veteran of the High School Choral program, is Chorus President. He



Junior Patty Sutton with seniors Charissa Clark and David Syka are singing with Honors Chorus.

also plays house hockey at Bladerunners.

Patricia Sutton is also a second year veteran of Honors Chorus where she sang the featured solo "Nel cor pui non

Sento". She starred in last year's school musical and attended the Governor's School for the Arts. She is currently preparing for the lead in "Miracle on Thirty Fourth Street" at the Contra Theater and

singing with the Teen Chorale of the Sewickley Choir Institute.

The eighty member chorus is composed of the best high school singers in Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Mercer Counties. Over 500 students auditioned for these 80 positions.

Dr. Paula Zerkle from Moravian College will be the guest conductor of the performance to be held on Saturday afternoon November 9.

The Ambridge Chorus and Keyboard Ensemble are still accepting performance dates for their Holiday Program. The thirty member Show Choir and the 10 member Keyboard Ensemble perform for community organizations, institutions and civic groups. You may call the High School at 266-5112 to arrange a performance date.

Students make a difference in the community

continued from front page

opinion on the numerous community service projects TSA (Technology Student Association) participates in throughout the year. TSA decided to incorporate some of their current community service projects into their Make A Difference Day project. Students in TSA are painting signs for various groups and organizations.

The two groups in the Ambridge Area Junior High School that are participating in Make A Difference Day are Student Council and the Caring and Sharing Club. An estimated 270 students are participating; each student is required to perform between one-and-a-half to two hours of service on Make A Difference Day and submit a paper signed by the person who received that service. The students participating are also making and donating cookies to the Harrington Home and Meals-On-Meals.

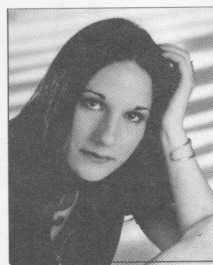
Interact member Emily DelGreco states, "It [Make A Difference Day] is important because it's one day where people across the country will give up

what they're working on and give up their entertainment and give of themselves in a way that will benefit all of society."

When asked what he thought about Make A Difference Day, Mr. Meddock said, "Overall,

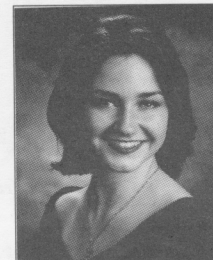
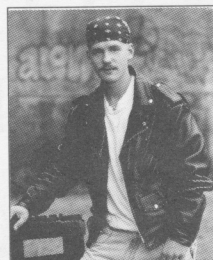
I just think it's a great concept because on that day there are going to be a lot of teachers and students involved in a lot of activities that will help their community. If we would live our lives that way all the time, we

wouldn't really need a Make A Difference Day."



SENIORS '97
By
T.R. McCLELLAN
PHOTOGRAPHY

375-0101



Community service - not just for criminals

by Nicole Webb

Since 1960 America has suffered a 560 percent increase in violent crimes, a 400 percent increase in illegitimate births and a 200 percent increase in teenage suicides. With these startling statistics, is it any wonder why many Americans believe that the values of the country are rapidly declining?

Six years ago, USA WEEKEND, in conjunction with The Points of Light Foundation, set out to make the world a better place. Their brainchild, Make A Difference Day, held this year on October 26, is now the national day of community service. One million people across the country, varying widely in age, race and religion, take part in Make A Difference Day. Volunteers work together to rebuild houses, parks and schools, but most importantly

they help restore faith in mankind.

Last year 50 teenagers from Junction City, Kansas, restored an old farm house. When a worker offered the lonely owner of the house a cookie, the old man was so overcome by the teen's generosity that he began to cry.

A group called LA Works, headed by actor Richard Dreyfuss, participated last year by tutoring children living in poor neighborhoods. They also tandem bicycled with the visually impaired.

As well as having success on a national level, Make A Difference Day has had success locally. A group of 17 people dedicated their time last year to collect dog and cat food for the Beaver County Humane Society. They collected a total of 1300 pounds of animal food. Other Beaver County organizations that have benefitted from Make A Difference Day include Habitat for

Humanity, Autumn Lane Nursing Home, Women's Center of Beaver County and AACT (Ambridge Area Community Teamwork).

Each year USA WEEKEND selects a regional winner from participating counties across the country. The winner receives a certificate from USA WEEKEND. Beaver County's co-sponsor of Make A Difference Day, the Beaver County Times, donates \$100 to the local winner.

The Beaver County Times has been a co-sponsor for four years. Last year employees from the newsroom participated in Make A Difference Day for the first time by hanging drywall at a Habitat for Humanity site in Monaca. Mr. Tom Bickert, associate editor of the Times, said, "The merit to it [Make A Difference Day] is that it gets people out and involved and they become more aware of the need in the community."

Three years ago, the Ambridge High School Interact Club won the regional award by holding a pancake breakfast to benefit the Caring Program. This year Interact plans to have a total

of 500 students (including 270 from the junior high) volunteer. Together, they will repaint high school bathrooms, help the elderly around their homes and donate baked goods to Meals-on-Wheels.

Interact sponsor Mrs. Carol Miloszewski said of Make A Difference Day, "I think it's a way to put focus on service for things people do all the time. Since it is a national event more can be accomplished." This year Mrs. Miloszewski plans to multiply the total number of volunteer hours by the rate of minimum wage. She feels it will be interesting to see the dollar value of labor that has been donated.

Families, offices, individuals and groups are encouraged to help others during this year's Make A Difference Day. A panel of judges will select 60 projects worthy of \$120,000 in cash prizes. Representatives from the top 10 projects will be invited to the Make A Difference Day awards held in Washington, D.C., during the National Volunteer Week in April. This year's judges include Naomi Judd, Richard *continued on page 9*



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The Doctor is in

by Bonnie Marr

Even though Mr. Parry, Ambridge's high school principal, has not changed, his title has. Mr. Parry, now Dr. Parry, obtained his doctorate this past summer June 19.

To go about getting a doctorate it takes an average 7-8 years, but Dr. Parry received his doctorate at an extraordinary rate of five years. He received a doctorate of education in administration and policy studies. He decided to pursue his PHD so that he could continue his education and because it was a "personal challenge."

After 15 years as a teacher he made the decision that he wanted to become a principal. As a principal, thoughts of a PHD were constantly in his mind.

He received his doctorate

from the University of Pittsburgh. The final step of the process was a defense or when one presents a dissertation. It was on quality management in blue ribbon schools. He did this as a parallel dissertation with two other schools. This unique approach was the first time accomplished in Pitt.

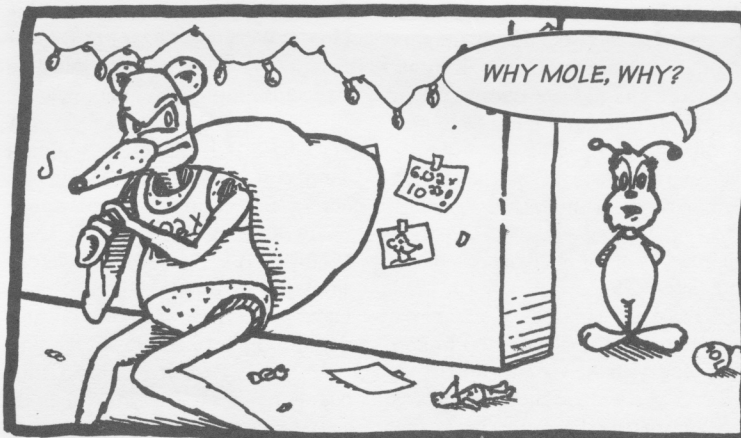
This accomplishment deserves much respect and may lead him to the "bigger" picture of the system. When asked about any future plans, Dr. Parry responds, "I would like the opportunity to teach on the college level." Dr. Parry may think this is not just his personal accomplishment, but it is. He has gone to the level that he can, and this should be an example to kids. Dr. Parry closes with, "If I can do it, anyone can do it."

A Chemist's Christmas

by Kristie Miller

What do Columbus Day, Halloween, and Mole Day have in common? They are all special days observed in October. From 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. October 23, chemistry enthusiasts in the US and Canada will observe Mole Day. It was founded by a chemistry teacher in Wisconsin just seven years ago.

Each year the number of celebrants has been rapidly increasing. Led by Mr. Durkin, Ambridge's chemistry instructor, Ambridge High School joined the bandwagon five years ago and began observing this truly unique fall day. There is even an organization, the National Mole Day Foundation, Inc., which publishes a booklet with suggestions for observing the event.



...AND HE TOOK THE WHO'S WIGGLY WOOK, WIZ WAZZLERS, AND SUZZY LOU'S WHO BIRD, NO LONGER CAN SHE CELEBRATE 6.02 X 10²³.

Joe Kulk

In chemistry lingo, a mole is one of the most important units of measurement. A mole is utilized in measuring ions, atoms, and molecules. Chemists know

that one mole equals 6.02 x 10 to the 23rd power. A mole of rice would occupy a cube about 120 miles on each edge.

Each October, North

American chemistry students seize the opportunity to combine academics with a day of fun. This year, Ambridge High School chemistry teacher Ms. Moon-Kutzavitch intends to continue the "mole" tradition. Whether it is a party, posters, making mole-biles or just wearing mole t-shirts, plans are underway for Mole Day 1996!

Creative mole ideas include: The Little Molemaid, Molezart, Molehammed Ali, Mole J. Simpson, The Last of the Molehicans, Molan Ryan, Molether Teresa, Molepra Winfrey, Molery Clinton, or Larry, Mole and Curly...

Is it a bird, a plane? No, it is a mole! "Mole"sessives can write to Monty Mole, c/o Jin Waner, 102 Griffes St., Clio, MI, 48420, or e-mail to wanerj@cemvax.cem.msu.edu fax to 810-780-1794.

Two new teachers at AAHS



New faces: Mr. Knopsnyder and Mrs. Moon-Katzavitch. Photo by Rich Kuzma

by Erin McBroom

Students may have seen some new faces in the halls of Ambridge High. Two new teachers were added to the faculty this year, Mr. Knopsnyder, who teaches P.O.D. and Drivers Education, and Mrs. Moon-Kutzavitch, who teaches chemistry.

Mr. Knopsnyder is originally from Washington, PA. This is his first full-time teaching job. He attended California University of Pennsylvania and has his degree in Comprehensive Social Studies. Mr. Knopsnyder says he likes teaching in Ambridge. When asked for one thing that he would change about teaching at Ambridge, he said that he wished the classes were smaller. Mr.

Knopsnyder is filling in for Mr. Petruncy, who is on sabbatical for one year.

Our second new teacher is Mrs. Moon-Kutzavitch. She is originally from Oberlin, Ohio. Mrs. Moon-Kutzavitch got her

B.S. in Chemistry from Gannon University and her Certificate in Education is from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She taught at Butler High School for one year before coming to Ambridge. Mrs. Moon-Kutzavitch

likes teaching at Ambridge, but like many others in Ambridge, wishes the rooms were air conditioned. Mrs. Moon-Kutzavitch is in for Mr. Durkin, who, like Mr. Petruncy, is on sabbatical.



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★ ★ Bridger Review ★ ★

★★★★★ Restaurant Review

by Peggy Madonna

Bowsers, located at 1493 Brodhead Road, Monaca, is definitely a restaurant worth trying. As a matter of fact, I'm almost positive you'll find the food as great as I say it is.

Bowsers specializes in really big sandwiches. And I mean BIG. There are lots of different choices of meat and toppings. French fries and cole slaw are also added to the sandwiches. It sounds weird, but trust me - it's good!

The food isn't really cheap; about \$3.70 to \$3.90 for a sandwich. It sounds a little expensive, but there is a lot of food for your money. Side orders, soups, chili and salads are also available and everything on the menu is under \$6.

Another plus to Bowsers is that it is so conveniently located in the rear of Center Stage, the wicked-awesome dance club for teens! After dinner you might want to stop in and "bust a move," or play bingo if it's Monday night.

Basically, this is a really great restaurant with awesome food. If I weren't so afraid of having a massive heart attack I'd eat there everyday. This is hardly health food. So, go to Bowsers. If you tell them that Peggy sent you, you can get a really big discount on your order; or maybe they'll just laugh at you since they have absolutely no idea who I am.

★ Movie Review

by Rich Dugan

The movie **First Kid** is an excellent picture for torturing disobedient prison inmates.

The film was based upon a secret service agent, played by Sinbad, and his misadventures with the president's mischievous son. The story begins with Sinbad being assigned to protect the youth after many other agents have been, publicly embarrassed. It continues to show the first kid, Luke Davenport, pummeled by a schoolyard bully. From there in the movie, Sinbad teaches the child how to fight to prepare for his climactic rematch against the juvenile delinquent during a school

dance.

First Kid is a combination between the Richard Pryor hit **The Toy** and **Rocky V**, with Sinbad playing both lead roles with his charismatic charm. The plot is extremely predictable and drags on for over two hours. The movie's plot has been done many times before in other films. This tired storyline is an embarrassment to Walt Disney Productions and should not be watched by anyone.

★★★★★ Book Review

by Sarah Clark

"The definition of genius is that it acts unconsciously; and those who have produced immortal works have done so without knowing how or why."

-William Hazlitt, 1826

From this opening quote in the biography of Mario Lemieux, the book had me hooked. simply titled **Mario**, this book is a must-read for any serious hockey fan. Written by Lawrence Martin and published in 1993, **Mario** tells the story of Lemieux's life from when he was four years old until his diagnosis of Hodgkin's disease in early 1993.

One of my friends told me about this book, and right away I knew I had to have it. So I went to the bookstore, bought a copy and started reading it the second I got home. I could not put it down until I had finished it three days later. From the opening paragraph the author draws you into the story and keeps you there.

Mario totally rocks, so if you call yourself a hockey fan, you HAVE to go up to the school library and check out this book.

★★★ Music Review

by Jenni Richards

It's been contemplated for a while now, but I never really believed it would happen. But sure enough, *From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah* comes the new Nirvana album. Made up of live tracks recorded during concerts in Rome, London and

other places around the globe; *From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah* combines all the loud sound and raw power of one of the greatest bands of the nineties at their finest. It's all here: the attitude, the melodies, the wailing guitars and the heavy drum beat wrapped up in the emotional frenzy of Kurt Cobain. And it rocks.

This album is about as close as you can get to a greatest hits album without actually having one. It opens with backstage talk and Kurt's trademark, soul-rendering scream, then crashes into a few of the band's more recognizable songs like "Lithium" and "Drain You". In keeping with the band's desire for a low profile, it includes a few obscure songs such as "Blew" (from their first album, *Bleach*) and a lyric-less jam session called "Tourette's". The record also includes the teen rock anthem "Smells Like Teen Spirit".

Although there is nothing new on *From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah*, it is a must for die hard Nirvana fans; a happy reminder that there is some truth behind the saying "Legends never die". Long live alternative rock.

STAR RATING SYSTEM

- ★★★★ Da Bomb
- ★★★ Better than a Mentos Commerical
- ★★ My Mom liked it
- ★ I'd rather do Calculus

"Make a Difference"

continued from page 7

Dreyfuss, Cristina Saralegui, Captian Scott O'Grady, Robert K. Goodwin and Marcia Bullard.

USA WEEKEND challenges people to, "imagine the power of a million people simultaneously helping others." It is important that Americans not "grow weary or lose heart" in doing good. One act of kindness, no matter how small it may seem at the time, can have a big impact on the lives of others.



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Don't judge the team by the score

by Mike Dwyer

Everyone knows that the football team lost 83-7 against North Allegheny on September 21. Everyone also knows that they have not won a game yet. It would make sense if people lost interest in the team, but the opposite seems to have happened. Everywhere I go, high school football is the topic of conversation. All of a sudden, newscasters and sportswriters, not just old guys sitting on park benches, are talking about Ambridge football.

This year was supposed to

be a year to rebuild under new coach Terry George, but nobody could have expected 83-7, even though North Allegheny has one of the top teams in the state. On top of the lopsided loss, they also lost 10 players to injury, many of those injuries being serious ones.

The next day, the whole town was buzzing with news of the score. I knew that North Allegheny had beat us by 55 points last year, but that score blew me away. Most of the talk was degrading, mocking the team. WTAE preceded the showing of the score with "No folks, this isn't a basketball score..." I don't think

that they deserve that. These guys have been working hard since late summer, and they feel bad enough after every game they lose. They shouldn't have to hear, "Hey, are you going to keep them under 80 points on Friday?" every five minutes. They have faced more 300 pound guys in four weeks than I have seen in my whole life. I don't think there are many students in this school who would have the guts to stand up to these monsters week after week like our team does.

As for the game itself, there were members of the team who felt that North Allegheny was wrong to score 83 points, using the no-huddle offense throughout the entire game. Chris Semonik, a junior lineman, held this opinion: "I think they [North Allegheny] showed a complete lack of class. They should have let some of their younger players play." Others neither expected nor wanted any mercy out of North Allegheny. Rich Dugan, senior lineman, had this to say. "I don't blame NA for scoring as many points as they did. If the situation was opposite, we would have done the same to them."

As for the rest of the season, they will have two chances against teams with similar records: New Castle, a team they defeated

last year, and a team from outside their section with an identical record, possibly Kiski.

The team hopes for improvement. "Bubby", the beloved waterboy who has been around Ambridge athletics longer than most of us could throw a football, believes that "improvement is the issue," and I think that is a great attitude for this team to have. Chris Semonik also adds, "The whole situation this year has been very frustrating. The best thing we can do is improve. We just have to put that score behind us and move on to the next game." Rich Dugan is not so sure. "I think we have to remember the score to make sure it never happens again. I just hope someday Coach George and this team will be able to pay North Allegheny back."

So where do they go from here? Does seeing that score motivate them, or does it hurt them? Do they put it behind them, or does it haunt them? That is up to them. The team has a strong nucleus of juniors to build upon and a good group of seniors to lead the team. Their ability to deal with losses like that will dictate what kind of success they will have in the future.

Soccer teams work towards a common "Goal"



Junior Kelly Lavin intercepts a pass from a Quigley forward.

Photo by Joe Kulik

by Bryan Hooks

The Ambridge girls soccer team is having one of their best seasons.

Currently, the team is tied for third place with Center. If Ambridge beats either one of their rivals, Hopewell or Quaker Valley, they are sure to make the playoffs.

The team is led by it's senior captains: Melissa Smoley, Jen Jasinski, and Lena Pazzanita. This year, the underclassmen have been getting a lot of playing time. They are stepping up with good performances. Ambridge got a good player this year from Quigley named Justine Elliot. With about six games remaining, the Ambridge Girls varsity soccer team, led by Art Pratt, is positive towards going into the playoffs for the first time.

The Ambridge boys varsity soccer team is having a good season as well. The team has a section record of 6-3-1. The team

has to win all of their next section games, except Quaker Valley. They also have a tough game coming up against Montour, in which they tied last time.

This year, 1992 Ambridge graduate, Greg Helsel took over the head coaching spot. The team captains are: Jake Naggy, Hoby Schweikert, Ryan Priore and Josh Baker. The underclassmen are also stepping up in the boys program. This year, Eric Dewitt and Eugene Faiella are rotating halves in goal. When asked how this year compares to last year, senior captain Jake Naggy said, "We lost 13 seniors, so we have a young team. We are doing well considering we had a victory against Moon." When asked how he feels the team's future will look this year and years to come, sophomore Mark Pinchotti ended with, "This year and the next two years, we will definitely make the playoffs. We might win the section when I'm a senior!"

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Girls tennis team on the rise



Senior Sarajane Adrian prepares to serve against Hopewell while junior Lauren Kresicki stands by.
Photo by Rich Kuzma

by Emily DelGreco

After the fans had left and the school had given up, the Ambridge girl's tennis team decided to make a comeback. The September 18 match against West Allegheny marked the first victory in years for the team. Armed with optimism and improving skills, the team hopes to finish the season with another win.

The tennis team had suffered years without a victory. Struggling against the skill and power of a AAAA section, the girls' situation seemed hopeless. Each year brought interested students to the team with the same goal in mind: to win. However, neither hope nor practice could

bring the team to victory.

This season, however, began with the bright addition of a section change. While the team had been playing with high profile schools such as Shadyside Academy and North Allegheny, the change allows them to play schools with more comparable skill. Led by Coaches Frank Sangermano and Elizabeth Giancola, the girls planned to take full advantage of the opportunity. By playing Beaver, Quigley and Rochester, travel time to and from matches is greatly decreased.

While the section change has allowed the team to fare better in competition, the fact that the members are so young has still acted as a disadvantage. With

only one senior, Sarajane Adrian, the team often finds their competition to be older and, in many cases, more experienced. Yet the victory has proven that age is not necessarily an indicator of skill.

"We are doing a lot better this year than last, but it has been kind of tough since our team members are fairly new," said junior Lauren Kresicki. Kresicki was paired with junior Julie George in the final and winning doubles match against West Allegheny. "One of the reasons

we have improved is because we have had extra help from our new coach, Mrs. Giancola. Also 'Sange' (as he is affectionately called by the team) has been good to us all year."

At the time of this writing, the team was at the next to last place in their section and had exactly one victory. Although to some, a record of 1-10 may seem unimpressive, this is one more win than last season. And while losing has been said to build character, sometimes it takes a win to feel the benefits.

Get "Spiked" for girls volleyball

by Bryan Hooks

The Ambridge Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team is having an outstanding season.

The team's record is 9-0. The team is led by seniors: Tina Kowalski, Stephanie Szabo, Kenisha Carlisle, Marie Persi and Angie Koban. The coaches, Brian Begar and Robert Pac, have been practicing the girls hard six days a week.

Last year, Ambridge made it to the first round of the playoffs, but they lost to Farrel. The team feels that they have gotten much stronger since last year.

The girl's volleyball team

feels that they have one of the best programs in the school, and they don't get any recognition or school spirit. They encourage fans to attend. When asked how she feels about how the team looks, sophomore Lauren Wozniak stated, "our team is no doubt spectacular, and we want the support of the school because we are going farther than we ever have." Also, when asked about her feelings on what the teams future holds, Christy Neese replied, "I think the playoffs are definitely in the future. We hope to see the state championships ahead."

"Racing" for success

by Rich Dugan

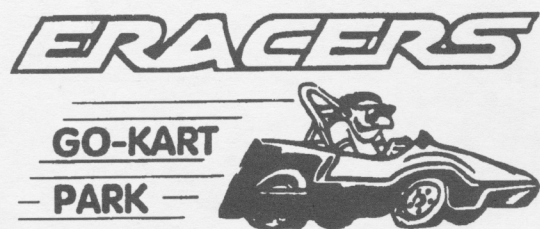
The 1996 Ambridge Area Boys' Cross Country Team has had a great beginning to their season despite a 1-3 record in WPIAL's division one, section five.

Coach Shoup believes his squad is really beginning to come together, as they have had impressive showings in their last two meets. Another strength of this year's Bridger running team is their youth. Although their best athlete is a graduating senior, Hoby Schweikert, the rest of the team is a strong core of sophomores and juniors. That list includes Hoby's younger brother, Andy Shweikert, who recently came in first place at a meet in Blackhawk.

Hopefully the youth and leadership strengths of the Ambridge Boys' Cross Country Team will bring forth a productive season and a championship winning future.

The 1996 Ambridge Area Girls' Cross Country Team recently came off an impressive fourth place finish out of 10 teams at the Beaver County Invitational. Coach Kowal believes that the team is running very well but feels they have the potential for improvement. That potential was shown in a victory over a strong Blackhawk squad.

Both of the girls' and boys' teams are running very well and have brought a great deal of pride to Ambridge.



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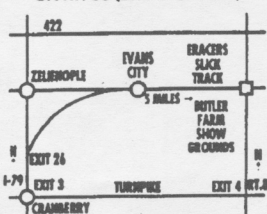
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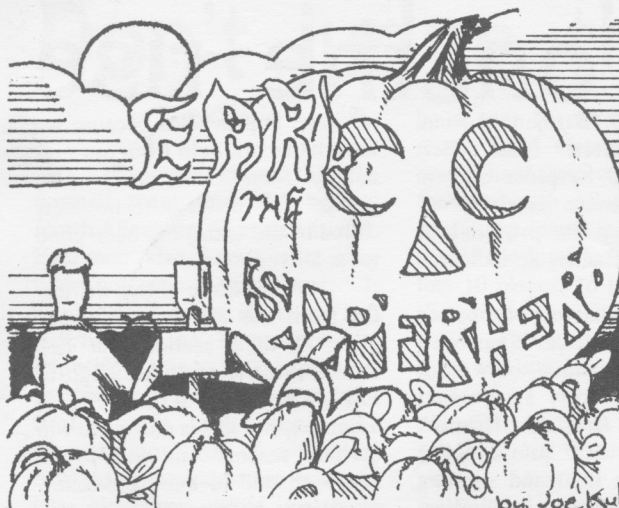


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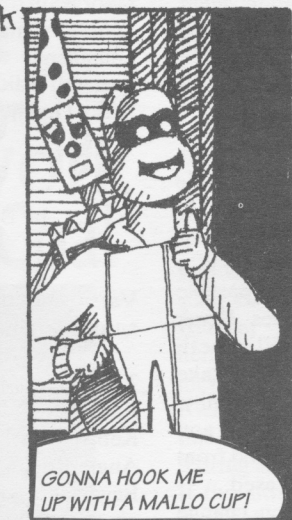
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MALLO CUP!!!
COME IN! LET ME GET A LIGHT!



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THIS PLACE IS A BIT HAUNTED.



WE'LL GET RID OF YOUR GHOSTS IN RETURN FOR MALLO CUPS.

SOUNDS LIKE A DEAL!



WHAT YA PLAN ON DOIN?

I KNOW WHO TO CALL.



...SURE I'LL BE RIGHT OVER.



LATER...

KNOCK KNOCK

THAT'S HIM.



YOU SAID YOU HAVE A GHOST PROBLEM?

YEP! DO YOU HAVE A MALLO CUP BY ANY CHANCE?

TO BE CONTINUED...

Silhouette

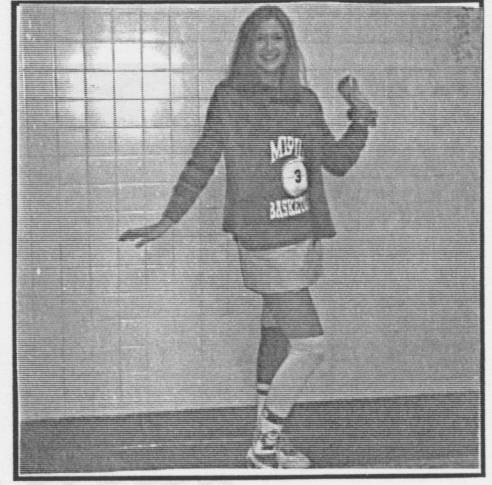
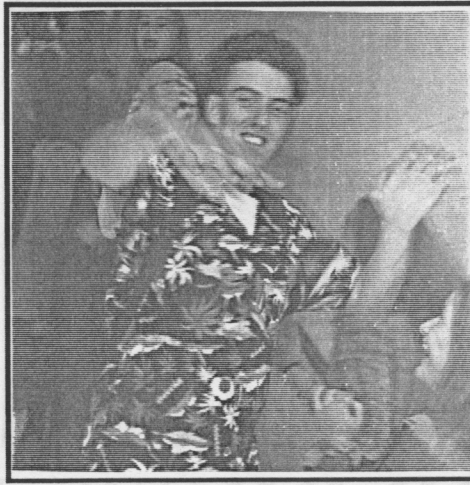
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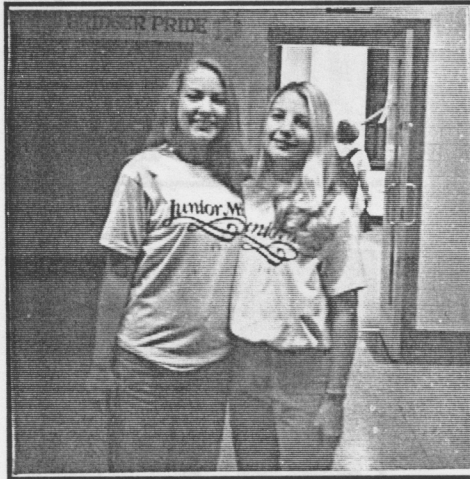
Ambridge Area High School

October Supplement

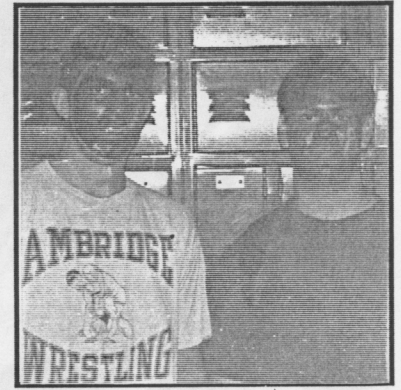
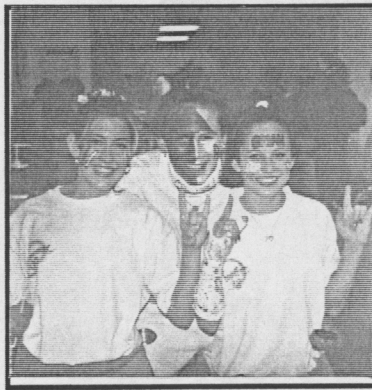
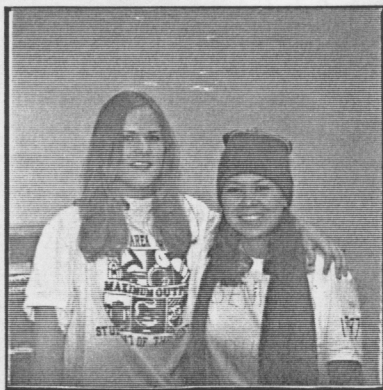
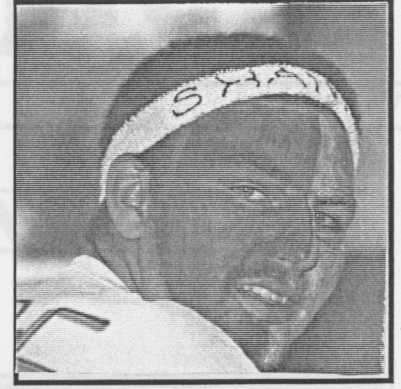
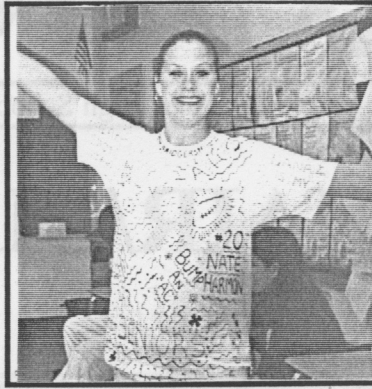
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